

Weekly Diabetes Update

9-06-07

1. Nominations due September 20, 2007 for public health partners to assist in the development of *Healthy People 2020* objectives.

In a Federal Register notice published August 21, 2007, Health and Human Services (HHS) announced the establishment of the Secretary's Advisory Committee on National Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Objectives for 2020 and solicited nominations for appointment to the Committee. The Department seeks nominees with expertise across a broad range of areas related to health promotion, disease prevention, and public health benchmarking. Nominations are due September 20, 2007. Self-nominations are permitted.

The Advisory Committee, which is established under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), shall provide advice and assistance to the Secretary and HHS in the development of health promotion and disease prevention objectives to improve the health of Americans by 2020. The Committee shall advise the Secretary regarding national health promotion and disease prevention initiatives, in particular the work to develop goals and objectives to improve the health status and reduce health risks for Americans. The Committee shall provide advice and consultation to the Secretary to facilitate the process of developing and implementing national health promotion and disease prevention goals and objectives and advice to the Secretary about the initiatives to occur during the initial implementation phase of the goals and objectives.

For more information about the *Healthy People 2020* development process and to view the full text of the Federal Register Notice-along with details of the required nomination package contents-visit the Healthy People Web site at www.healthypeople.gov/hp2020.

2. 2008 NACDD Chronic Disease Academy Call for Proposals

The National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD) has issued a Call for Proposals for educational activities to be presented at the 2008 NACDD Chronic Disease Academy, to be held February 20-22, 2008 in Denver, Colorado. The Academy will provide skill building training activities designed to increase the knowledge, skills and abilities of chronic disease practitioners at the local, regional and state levels. Training will be presented in four areas: Strategic Leadership, Collaboration and Integration, Program Management, and Research and Best Practice Utilization in the workplace. Proposals must be received by October 1, 2007, and may be submitted electronically at www.chronicdiseaseacademy.org. For additional information, contact Marcia Noble, NACDD Director of Professional Practice, at mnoble@chronicdisease.org.

3. Michigan Request for Information

The Michigan Diabetes Prevention & Control Program would like to develop a project utilizing consumer report on three clinical indicators – A1C (Glycohemoglobin), foot exams and eye exams. Michigan Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) data indicate that the frequency of people with diabetes (PWD) receiving any one of these tests is in line with national norms. However, the frequency of people receiving all three is quite low in Michigan. They would provide incentives for PWD statewide to complete and return simple forms indicating receipt of any or all three tests. The forms would be distributed through targeted health care organizations. The concept would be to provide a consumer-based Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) initiative, which could be focused on specific organizations and disparate populations. They'd like to make sure they haven't missed any like efforts elsewhere. If you are aware of other similar projects that Michigan could learn from, please contact Dan Diepenhorst at 517-335-9462 or diepenhorstd@michigan.gov.

4. Activities to Celebrate *Diabetes Month* in November

If any of you have activities planned for November to celebrate Diabetes Month, please let the Missouri Diabetes Prevention and Control Program (DPCP) know what they are. The Chronic Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Division of Diabetes Translation (DDT) is interested in activities as well. We will share your information through the partnership network and with the DDT.

5. Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA)

CDC recently released a FOA for public health conference support funding (CDC-PA-HM08-801). The purpose of conference support funding is to provide partial support for specific non-Federal conferences in the areas of health promotion and disease prevention, education programs, and applied research. The closing dates for applications are *December 10, 2007 for Cycle A and March 3, 2008 for Cycle B*. The details can be accessed at: <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?oppId=14775&mode=VIEW>.

6. Kidney Disease: What African Americans Need to Know

A new patient education brochure for African Americans with diabetes and high blood pressure is now available from the National Institutes of Health's (NIH's) National Kidney Disease Education Program (NKDEP). The brochure encourages those at risk to talk to their health care provider about getting tested for kidney disease. The easy-to-read brochure outlines the risks for kidney disease, particularly among African Americans, and explains what people can do to take care of their kidneys. View or order the free brochure from NKDEP's website at www.nkdep.nih.gov or call 1-866-4 KIDNEY (1-866-454-3639).

7. California Obesity Prevention Initiative

The California Obesity Prevention Initiative and CA Dept. of Health Services have issued a publication *Do More, Watch Less*. The tips are fantastic, and could easily make great qualifying messages under umbrella messages for both teens and adults. Find it at www.dhs.ca.gov/obesityprevention.

8. Diabetes Conversation Maps

Are you ready to help transform diabetes education in the United States? The American Diabetes Association (ADA) is ready to help you change the conversation around diabetes by effectively engaging your patients in dialogue that will enable them to become better self-managers. "We at the ADA believe Conversation Maps are one of the most important innovations in patient education in a decade," said Karmeen Kulkarni, immediate past-president, Healthcare & Education, ADA. Since last year, the American Diabetes Association has been working with Healthy Interactions to develop five U.S. Diabetes Conversation Maps*. The U.S. Diabetes Conversation Maps were launched at the ADA 67th Scientific Session in Chicago in June 2007. To learn more about the Conversation Maps visit www.healthyi.com/diabetes.

From the website: "65% of all diabetes educators in Canada are using the diabetes Conversation Maps and 90% agree or strongly agree that their patients will incorporate the information from them into their diabetes management."

9. Chronic Disease Indicators Website

The new website is up and running at <http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/cdi/>.

10. State Health Facts Website

Additions and updates on Health Costs & Budgets, Medicare, Medicaid & SCHIP, Health Status, and Demographics & the Economy are now available. Go to www.Statehealthfacts.org to view changes.

11. Women with diabetes left behind in drop in death rates

PHILADELPHIA, June 19, 2007 - A new analysis of data from three large national databases finds that in the 29 years between 1971 and 2000, the death rate of men with diabetes has dropped significantly, in line with the overall decline of the death rate for all Americans. But the death rate for women with diabetes did not decline at all. To read the full article, go to http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2007-06/acop-wwd061307.php.

12. Report Finds "Serious Deficiencies" in Preventive Services

A new report by the Partnership for Prevention found deficiencies in preventive care for the nation as a whole. However, it noted particularly troubling shortfalls for racial and ethnic populations. The report, *Preventive Care: A National Profile on Use, Disparities, and Health Benefits*, found that a few measures-such as more adults getting flu

shots and being screened for cancer-could save tens of thousands of lives each year in the United States. The study was funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and WellPoint Foundation. Read the news release at <http://www.rwjf.org/newsroom/newsreleasesdetail.jsp?id=10506&c=EMC-CA141>. Download the full text of the report at [http://www.rwjf.org/files/research/8-7-07%20-%20Partnership%20for%20Prevention%20Report\(1\).pdf](http://www.rwjf.org/files/research/8-7-07%20-%20Partnership%20for%20Prevention%20Report(1).pdf).

13. *F as in Fat: How Obesity Policies are Failing in America – New Report Shows Obesity Rates Still on the Rise*

Adult obesity rates rose in 31 states over the past year and decreased in none, according to a new Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF)-supported report from Trust for America's Health (TFAH). But while the obesity epidemic continues to draw increased attention, there hasn't been a coordinated national response to match the scope of the problem. The fourth edition of the report *F as in Fat: How Obesity Policies are Failing in America* ranks obesity rates in each state, provides a review of federal and state policies aimed at preventing or reducing obesity, and recommends action steps for families, communities, schools, employers, the food and beverage industries, health professionals, and government. Find the report at <http://www.rwjf.org/pr/product.jsp?id=20314&c=EMC-CA138>.

14. Report Asserts that Obesity's Toll on Americans' Health Rivals that of Tobacco

The President's Cancer Panel, a division of the National Cancer Institute, on Thursday issued a report declaring that obesity's impact on America's health rivals that of tobacco use in terms of morbidity and related health risks. The report cites research showing overall cancer death rates to be about 50 percent higher among obese men and more than 60 percent higher among obese women compared with their normal-weight counterparts, and calls on the federal government to adopt policies and programs that promote healthy lifestyle habits, Reuters reports. The report, published online, summarizes recent panel meetings that assessed efforts to reduce the national cancer burden by promoting healthier lifestyles and examined evidence linking diet, nutrition and physical activity, the risk of cancer due to tobacco use and second-hand smoke exposure. The report's authors attribute obesity's growing toll to several factors, including a lack of adequate sidewalks and safe recreational sites, limited access to fresh and healthy foods in underserved communities and worsening physical education in schools. The authors call for more effective oversight of food marketing and coordinated efforts to educate children and adults about healthy eating habits. It also suggests that physicians step up efforts to educate patients about weight management and employers work to remove barriers to healthy eating and increase staff members' access to affordable, nutritious foods. The report identifies the federal farm bill as one opportunity to improve the quality of the nation's food supply and the health of participants in national school lunch, food stamp and other federal nutrition programs. According to the report, there is a critical need for legislative, policy and environmental changes to support cancer risk-reducing lifestyle habits, and for collaboration among governments, private and public agencies, industries, educators and individuals to create communities that encourage good health.

Fox, Reuters/Yahoo! News, 8/16/07 http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20070816/hl_nm/cancer_usa_dc
President's Cancer Panel report, August 2007 <http://deainfo.nci.nih.gov/advisory/pcp/pcp07rpt/pcp07rpt.pdf>

15. Issue Brief Identifies Practical Strategies to Reduce Health Care Disparities

From Policy to Action: Addressing Racial and Ethnic Disparities at the Ground Level

While health care disparities are well documented, strategies to address these gaps in care are still evolving. A new issue brief from the Center for Health Care Strategies (CHCS) outlines practical strategies that states and managed care organizations are implementing to reduce health care disparities and improve quality.

The brief highlights the need for standardized collection of race, ethnicity and language data, culturally competent approaches, as well as the involvement and commitment of multiple stakeholders to advance the quality and value of health care services.

From Policy to Action: Addressing Racial and Ethnic Disparities at the Ground Level

<http://www.rwjf.org/files/research/frompolicytoactionbrief082407.pdf>. For more information go to the following website:

<http://www.rwjf.org/programareas/resources/product.jsp?id=20413&pid=1142&c=EMC-CA142>

16. Maternal Mortality Rate in U.S. Highest in Decades, Experts Say

Access this story and related links online:

http://www.kaisernetwork.org/daily_reports/rep_index.cfm?DR_ID=47116

The maternal mortality rate in the U.S. is the highest it has been in decades, according to statistics released this week by CDC's National Center for Health Statistics, the *AP/Washington Post* reports. According to the figures, the U.S. maternal mortality rate was 13 deaths per 100,000 live births in 2004. The rate was 12 deaths per 100,000 live births in 2003 -- the first year the maternal death rate was more than 10 since 1977 (Stobbe, *AP/Washington Post*, 8/24). A total of 540 women were reported to have died of maternal causes in 2004, 45 more than were reported in 2003, according to the report (National Center for Health Statistics [NCHS] report, 8/21).

Reasons for Increase: A rise in the number of caesarean sections -- which now account for 29% of all births -- could be a factor in the increased maternal mortality rate, some experts said. According to a review of maternal deaths in New York, excessive bleeding is one of the primary causes of pregnancy-related death, and women who have undergone several previous c-sections are at particularly high risk of death. Some studies have found that race and quality of care also factor into the maternal mortality rate. The maternal mortality rate among black women is at least three times higher than among white women. Black women also are more susceptible to hypertension and other complications, and they tend to receive inadequate prenatal care. Three studies have shown that at least 40% of maternal deaths could have been prevented with improved quality of care. The rise in obesity also might be a factor, some experts said. According to researchers, *overweight women tend to have diabetes or experience other complications that could affect pregnancy outcomes*. Overweight women also might have excessive tissue or larger infants, which could make a vaginal birth more difficult and lead to more c-sections. More women also are giving birth in their late 30s and 40s, when risks of pregnancy complications are higher, according to the *AP/Post* (*AP/Washington Post*, 8/24). In addition, the report says the increase in maternal deaths "largely reflects" more states' use of a separate item on the death certificate indicating pregnancy status of the woman. According to the report, the number of maternal deaths does not include all deaths of pregnant women, but only those deaths reported on the death certificate that were assigned to causes related to or aggravated by pregnancy or pregnancy management (NCHS report, 8/21). California, Idaho and Montana in 2003 changed death certificate questions, the *AP/Post* reports (*AP/Washington Post*, 8/24).

17. Health Affairs Publishes Findings From National Survey of Seniors

Findings from a national survey of more than 16,000 seniors by the Kaiser Family Foundation, the Commonwealth Fund and the Tufts-New England Medical Center were published in a Health Affairs Web Exclusive on Tuesday, Aug. 21. "Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Progress Report: Findings From A 2006 National Survey of Seniors" -- authored by Tricia Neuman and Michelle Strollo of Kaiser and others -- provides a detailed look at how Medicare Part D coverage affected seniors. It examines how the extent of drug coverage among seniors has changed, how out-of-pocket costs and access to medications vary by type of coverage, and awareness about the availability of subsidies among low-income seniors. Free access to the article is available at <http://www.kff.org/medicare/med082107pkg.cfm>.

18. Resources on Health Coverage and the Uninsured Available

The U.S. Census Bureau was scheduled to release its annual update on health insurance coverage and the number of uninsured Americans on August 28. The Foundation produces a wide range of reports and analyses on health insurance coverage. Some key resources on the subject have been compiled and are available at <http://www.kff.org/uninsured/resources.cfm>. The full text of the survey can be found at following website: <http://content.healthaffairs.org/cgi/reprint/hlthaff.26.5.w630v1?ijkey=wpOorB7zwSX6c&keytype=ref&siteid=healthaff>.

19. New Census Numbers on the Uninsured Reinforce the Need to Safeguard and Strengthen SCHIP – Statement by Risa Lavizzo-Mourey, M.D., M.B.A., RWJF President and CEO, Regarding the Release of Census Estimates

The number of uninsured Americans rose to 47 million in 2006, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, up from 44.8 million the previous year. In a statement issued following the release of the revised statistics, RWJF President and

CEO Risa Lavizzo-Mourey, M.D., M.B.A., said the crisis in coverage "raises serious clinical, economic and moral concerns about how we as a nation will meet the needs of our people." At the same time, the increase in the number of uninsured Americans lends new urgency to the effort to preserve and strengthen the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), currently up for reauthorization. "The alternative," says Lavizzo-Mourey, "is to divide our children further into those who get a fair chance at a healthy life, and those who don't." Read the statement at

<http://www.rwjf.org/newsroom/newsreleasesdetail.jsp?id=10513&c=EMC-CA132>

See also: **Comparing Federal Government Surveys That Count Uninsured People in America** at

<http://www.rwjf.org/files/publications/other/rwjfcomparingsurveys2007.pdf>